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APPLICATION NO.	IO. HEING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO	CONFIRMATION NO.		
09/924,285 08 08 2001		Gerard Jay Bellasalma	60137-027	6035		
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CARLSON,	GASKEY & OLDS, P.O	EXAMINER				
400 WEST MAPLE ROAD SUITE 350			HEITBRINK, TIMOTHY W			
BIRMINGHA	AM, MI 48009		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
			1722	1-		
			DATE MAILED: 02/13/2003			

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner Tim Helbrink 1722			Application N	0.	Applicant(s)				
Examiner									
Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAIL MIXED ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION - Extensions of time may be available under the storedays of 37 CPR 1 156); if no event. Develor, may a reply be timely fined after \$2.0 kg/s/min the set of anticologists of 17 CPR 1 156); if no event however, may a reply be timely fined after \$2.0 kg/s/min the set of anticologists of 17 CPR 1 156); if no event however, may a reply be timely fined after \$2.0 kg/s/min the set of anticologists of the promotion of the proposed of the promotion of the prom	•	Office Action Summary							
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application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. Attachment(s) 1 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 2 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3 ☐ Other: Patent and Trademark Office		2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No							
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(2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) (3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ② 6) ☐ Other:	Attachment	(s)							
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The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "fluid flow passage 32" (paragraph 24, line 3) and "end portion 42" (paragraph 26, line 3). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Proper antecedent basis is required for "said coupler head" (line 2).

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-9, 12,14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nennecker.

Nennecker discloses a valve assembly comprising a port at the end of fluid flow passageway 36 to a mold assembly 22, a coupler having a piston 18,21 said coupler receiving a mix head 11, said fluid flow passageway 36 located from said coupler to said port, said piston 18, 21 movable within said fluid flow passage along a first axis between a first position which allows flow from said coupler to said port and a second position which seals said port. Said fluid flow passage 36 includes a first flow passage

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contains a port 25 along said first axis, a third flow passage below said port and along said first axis and a second flow passage substantially perpendicular to said first axis, wherein said second passage includes a first second passage portion within said coupler head and a second, second passage portion within the mix head. The second flow passage including a second piston 15 circular in cross section.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nennecker.

While the piston 18,21 is not square in cross-section, such a change in shape would have been in light of In re Dailey et al, 149 USPQ 47 where in change in shape not effecting the operation of the device is considered within the skill of the ordinary artisan.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12,14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gumery et al.

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Gumery et al. disclose a valve assembly comprising a port 7 to a mold assembly, a coupler 26 for receipt of a mix head 17, a fluid flow passage from said coupler to said port and a rectilinear piston 38 movable within said fluid flow passage along a first axis between a first position which allows flow from said coupler to said port and a second position which seals said port. The fluid flow passage includes a first flow passage along said first axis and a second flow passage substantially perpendicular to said first axis. The second passage includes a first second passage portion within said coupler head and a second, second passage portion within said mix head. A second piston 32 movable within said second flow passage. A third flow passage 23,24 communicating with said second flow passage in a perpendicular relationship and the second piston movable between a first position which allows flow from said third flow passage to said second flow passage and a second position which prevents fluid flow from said third flow passage to said second flow passage.

Claims 2 and 13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gumery et al.

While the piston 38 is not square in cross-section, such a change in shape would have been in light of In re Dailey et al, 149 USPQ 47 where in change in shape not effecting the operation of the device is considered within the skill of the ordinary artisan.

Claims 11 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nennecker as applied to claims 1-9, 12-20 above, and further in view of Schneider

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While Nennecker does not disclose a lock assembly (interlocking surfaces) within the coupler to engage the mix head with the coupler, Schneider discloses a lock assembly within a coupler 10 so as to secure a mix head 20 therein.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a lock assembly in the coupler of Nennecker in order to secure the mix head therein as suggested by Schneider.

Claims 11, 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gumery et al. as applied to claims 1-10, 12-21 above, and further in view of Schneider.

While Gumery et al. does not disclose a lock assembly (interlocking surfaces) within the coupler to engage the mix head with the coupler, Schneider discloses a lock assembly within a coupler 10 so as to secure a mix head 20 therein.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a lock assembly in the coupler of Gumery et al. in order to secure the mix head therein as suggested by Schneider.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim Heitbrink whose telephone number is 703-308-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday 5:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda Walker can be reached on 703-308-0457. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0651.

Tim Heitbrink
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1722

2-603

twh

February 6, 2003